



CITY OF SANTA MARIA
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

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May 27, 2008

Ms. Tam Doduc, Chair
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I St., 17th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SWRCB June 3 Meeting –Agenda Item 9 - Consideration of a Resolution adopting the “Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Funding List”**

Dear State Water Resources Control Board Members:

The City of Santa Maria commends the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff for their objective and judicious evaluation of the Santa Barbara Countywide Proposition 50 Round 2 projects and encourages the SWRCB to approve and adopt the “Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Implementation Grant Funding List” from Agenda Item 9 at your June 3rd meeting.

IRWM grant funding is critical to the County of Santa Barbara for projects that will improve water quality, enhance reliability, and maximize the use of local supplies. The IRWM funding affords an opportunity to: assist disadvantaged communities with inadequate drinking water quality, rehabilitate aging infrastructures, sustains water supplies during State Water Project reductions, protects ocean water quality, and protects people and property from flooding surrounded by a substandard levee while providing new water supplies and improved water quality to over-drafted water basins.

As a partner in the Santa Barbara Countywide IRWM planning and project effort, we thank you for your consideration of this critical funding recommendation and support approval of your staff's recommendation.

Sincerely,

BOB ORACH
MAYOR PRO TEM

xc: Mr. Lester Snow, Department of Water Resources